

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Aldermen Minutes
Tuesday, January 3, 2017

Members present; President Notte, Aldermen Allaire, Humphrey, Robertson, Tommola, Donahue, Larson, Gides, DePoy and Davis. Also present, Attorney Romeo and City Clerk Heck.

7:00 PM BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

President Notte called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (December 19, 2016)

A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Davis) to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. **Motion passed.**

OUTSIDE THE RAIL

Susan Schreibman, project manager of the Rutland Creek Path, updated the Board on the current developments with segment four of the creek path.

Rec Superintendent Cindi Wight updated the Board on the White's Pool Project specifically getting back to Alderman DePoy and his committee about their request to invest as much of the bond into the pool and not the bath house. Superintendent Wight presented her findings and stated that the old pool house was an option as well as portable showers and port toilettes. The Board discussed the findings. A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Davis) to suspend the rules and take action on the pool that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (DePoy, Davis) to authorize the Superintendent to proceed with plans with the pool at White's. Debate. **Motion passed.**

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

There were no communications from the Mayor.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

President Notte asked the Board to approve to addition requests. The first from Attorney Romeo for a referral of the Rutland County Solid Waste District and a discussion with a requested ordinance change. And the second request was from Commissioner Wennberg also for a referral of the issue of a previously voted approved water bond issue. Both request were so moved and seconded (Allaire, Davis) **Motions passed.**

REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OFFICIALS

Tara Kelly, Zoning Administrator, Zoning Bylaws Revision: RFP & Advisory Committee

Zoning Administrator Tara Kelly reviewed her request, seeking authorization to allow an RFP to hire an consultant to help with the input process for the Zoning Bylaws revision. A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Davis) suspending the rules and taking the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Davis) authorizing the RFP to hire a consultant to assist with the input process for the Zoning Bylaws revision. **Motion passed.** Susan Schreibman then spoke about an advisory zoning bylaws committee consisted of various members including two members of the Board of Aldermen to assist with the ordinance rewrite.

Attorney Romeo; Request for Pre-Authorization to invite Proposals

Attorney Romeo explained his request for pre-authorization to invite proposals. There were some questions and answers from the Board and Attorney Romeo. A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Robertson) to suspending the rules and taking the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.** A motion was made and seconded (Ettori, Gides) to authorize the Mayor to invite proposals for legal services whenever requested by City Attorney Romeo. Debate. There was a fair amount of debate before an amendment was added to the motion. Alderman Ettori requested that Attorney Romeo notify the Board when he requests an RFP from the Mayor. Alderman Gides who seconded the original motion was in agreement. **Motion passed as amended.**

Attorney Romeo; Request for Referral, RCSWD Proposed Charter Change

President Notte noted that this was an added item approved by the Board and asked Attorney Romeo to proceed. Attorney Romeo explained the request noting its time sensitivity and asked the committee hearing the request to hold a meeting as soon as possible and report back to the full Board at their next meeting.

A motion was made and seconded (Allaire, Larson) to refer the request to the Intermunicipal Committee. There was brief debate. **Motion passed.**

Michael Coppinger; Request Downtown Revolving Loan Fund, 37 Center Street

President Notte introduced the request. Michael Coppinger then reviewed the request noting the Revolving Loan Committee met to discuss the application from Stephen and Anna Montanez. Mr. Coppinger reviewed in length the request and shared the plans for the renovations by the Montanez's.

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) suspending the rules and taking the issue up that evening. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Allaire) approving the loan in the amount of \$13,750 from the Downtown RLF, terms 10 years at 2% interest with monthly payments and the loan will be recorded as a 2nd mortgage on the property. There was brief discussion. **Motion passed.**

Attorney Romeo requested an additional motion as he stated a conflict of interest with this request. Attorney Romeo explained that the loan was for his brother in-law and sister. Attorney Romeo also noted that his responsibility was to only prepare the documents and distribute as needed, he had no interest in the property. Attorney Romeo stated if the Board had no concerns it could move to waive any potential conflict with the City Attorney preparing the loan documents for this loan. Alderman Davis so moved, Alderman DePoy seconded. There was no debate. **Motion passed.**

Commissioner Wennberg; Request for Referral, Bond Question

Commissioner Wennberg introduced his request noting the voter approved bond was for a specific project, the placement of an equalization tank off of Campbell Road. Commissioner Wennberg then stated an opportunity based on engineering to relocate the tank or even the potential for a new plan with increased water benefits and the same results without a tank as well as decreased cost. In doing so the potential to go back to the voters in March would be necessary and time was of the essence.

A motion was made and seconded (Davis, Donahue) to refer the request to the Public Works Committee. Alderman Larson stated once the motion passed to have the Clerk warn the meeting for January 10, 2017 at 5:30 PM. Debate continued. **Motion passed.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

There were no Standing Committee reports.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no Select Committee reports.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

There were no Representative reports.

PETITIONS, LETTERS, MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

There were no petitions. Letters or miscellaneous communications to come before the Board.

BOARD OF CONTROL COMMISSIONERS

There were no items to come before the Board of Control Commissioners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board

MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Larson noted that he had done some media research and Alderman Davis had received the most votes for the holiday sweater contest.

At 7:40 PM a motion was made and seconded (Allaire, DePoy) to adjourn. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk